

"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Label No. EV576550240US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Erich Kratzmaier)	PATENT APPLICATION
)	Attorney Docket: KRA10293P00010US
Serial No.:	Not Yet Designated)	
(National Stage of PCT/EP2004/051525))	
)	
International)	Group Art Unit:
Filing Date:	16 July, 2004)	Not Yet Designated
)	
For:	TREATMENT COUCH)	
(as amended herein to agree with)	
WO 2005/009317 A1))	
)	
Examiner:	Not Yet Designated)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the art identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08A and other matters discussed below may be helpful to the Patent Office in its examination of the application identified above.

A copy of each of the identified non-U.S. patent documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

The documents cited in the corresponding International Search Report for PCT/EP2004/051525 are also listed in the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A.

Enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report in PCT/EP2004/051525 of which the above-captioned, instant U.S. patent application is a national stage. The search report cites five (5) documents, and the five (5) documents are listed on the attached Form

Serial No. PCT/EP2004/051525 - - - 2

PTO/SB/08A. All are in English.

The publication PCT/EP2004/051525, of which the above-captioned instant U.S. patent application is a national stage, claims priority of EP 03 01 6295.2 and EP 03 01 6296.0. Enclosed is a copy of the German language European Search Report of each of the priority European applications. The documents cited in the two European Search Reports are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

The German language DE 299 05 089 U appears to disclose patient support tables with headrest sections.

The Patent and Trademark Office Examiner is requested to review the art and determine the extent of the materiality of the disclosures thereof with respect to the patentability of the subject invention. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner will independently conduct a complete search for relevant prior art.

No inference should be drawn and no representation is made or intended: (a) that a search has been made, or if made, was complete; (b) that the art on the attached list presents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; or (c) that no more pertinent art than that listed is in existence. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)]

Citation of any art herein is not to be construed as an admission: (a) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, pertinent to the instant invention, or equivalent to the instant invention; (b) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant in the instant patent application; (c) that the art disclosure is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and/or (d) that the art disclosure is otherwise

10/565093

Serial No. PCT/EP2004/051525 - - - - 3

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 JAN 2006

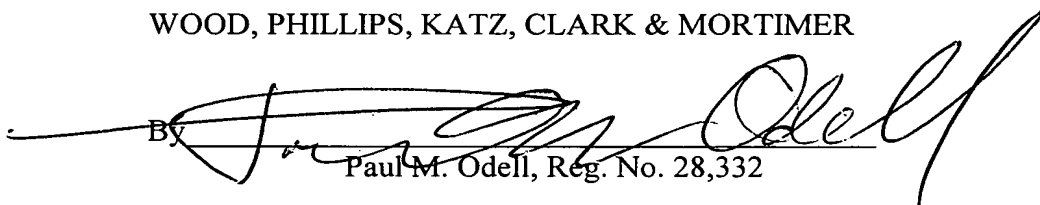
necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention and application. [See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g).]

No inference should be drawn that the discussion of any art herein is a discussion of each and every feature disclosed therein.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosures of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art cited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By  Paul M. Odell, Reg. No. 28,332

500 West Madison Street, Suite 3800
Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511
(312) 876-1800

Date: January 18, 2006

Comparable to Form PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	Not Yet Designated 10/565093
				Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Erich Kratzmaier
				Group Art Unit	Not Yet Designated
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Designated
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	KRA10293P00010US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,013,018	05/07/1991	Bernard Sicek et al.	
		US- 4,840,429	06/20/1989	Klaus Stoeckl	
		US- 4,660,549	04/28/1987	Donald J. Westphal et al.	
		US- 4,466,425	08/21/1984	Carlo Maggi	
		US- 2001/041885	11/15/2001	Kristian Hohla	
		US- 4,353,595	10/12/1982	Kazuyoshi Kaneko et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		GB 2 133 678 A	08/01/1984	Denyers Pty Ltd.		
		WO 01/72226 A	04/10/2004	Stille Surgical AB		
		EP 0 923 922 A	06/23/1999	Stille Beta Inc.		
		DE 299 05 089 U	08/05/1999	Manfred Grote		
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standards ST.16, if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a checkmark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) and application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	Not Yet Designated
				Filing Date	Consurately Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Erich Kratzmaier
				Group Art Unit	Not Yet Designated
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Designated
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	KRA10293P00010US

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		German Language European Search Report for EP 03 01 6295.2	
		English Language European Search Report for PCT/EP2004/051525	
		German Language European Search Report for EP 03 01 6296.0	
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) and application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.